

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at p. 21, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

D1

A comparison of the method of the present invention and that of the typical prior art discloses the difference in time requirements. The prior art method of **Figure 1** and **Figure 2** needs a minimum of three bus cycles for each program operation. A host typically has to poll the flash part more than [one] once to get the status. So three complete program operations required nine clock periods. But for this embodiment of the present invention, the first program operation needed three bus cycles. Subsequent program operations in this embodiment of the present invention only took one bus cycle each to complete. So a system using an embodiment of the present invention can have three program operations completed in five time periods. This is a savings of four clock periods. The larger the block of data that is used to program with the fast program mode, the greater the time savings over the prior art method.
